

Memo

CONFIDENTIAL

To: President George W. Bush

From: Elaine L. Chao, Secretary of Department of Labor

RE: Unemployment in America



I. Problems of America:

- "One 1999 study reported that 1.5 jobs had been lost for every job that Wal-Mart created" (Source B).
- "3.3 Million service jobs will move offshore between 2000 and 2015" (Source D).
- According to statistics taken by the Department of Labor, in the year 2001 "About 2 of every 5 employed persons connected to the Internet or used e-mail on the job" (Source E).
- According to a study taken in the year 2000, "The unemployment rate for workers who dropped out of high school is nearly four times the rate for college graduates" (Source F).
- "...Programmers in India are often better-educated than their U.S. counterparts – many have advanced degrees in computer science. However, they earn 20 percent to 25 percent of the salary of a U.S. based programmer" (Source D).
- "...Based on the statistics of the past 44 years, it can be predicted that the number of crimes committed in the US will continue to rise as long as the nation's economy continues to worsen and unemployment increases" (Source A).
- "About one-sixth of the people in the United States receive Social Security benefits" (Source C).

II. Similar Problems to Rome:

- "During the latter years of the empire farming was done on large estates called 'latifundia' that were owned by wealthy men who used slave labor" (Source H).
- "A farmer who had to pay workmen could not produce goods as cheaply. Many farmers could not compete with the low prices and lost or sold their farms" (Source H).
- "In times of financial instability it is always the city dwellers who suffer first and most... the townman has to buy his food and clothing, and to buy them in exchange for current coin... The cities declined more and more as the commerce dwindled. In their place arose great rural estates, ruled in feudal style by rich landlords" (Source G).
- "These people were not only a burden but also had little to do but cause trouble and contribute to an ever increasing crime rate" (Source H).
- "At one time the Emperor was importing grain to feed more than 100, 000 people in Rome Alone" (Source H).

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